

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(s): Swift et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/698,413

ART UNIT: 1771

FILING DATE: 10/30/2000

EXAMINER: Guarriello,
John J.

TITLE: SMOOTH SURFACE TRANSFUSE BELTS AND PROCESS
FOR PREPARING SAME

ATTORNEY 690-009492-US (PAR)

DOCKET NO.: D/A0430

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Sir:

This is responsive to the Office Action dated 3/26/03 in connection with the present application.

The non-elected claims 7-12 are retained pending the filing of a divisional application.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Section 103(a) rejection of claims 1 to 6 as being obvious from the Schlueter Jr., et al. Patent 5,922,446 in view of Chang et al Patent 5,991,590 is respectfully requested. Apparently "Chambers" is also relied upon but is not identified. Counsel assumes that this is the Chambers et al. Patent 5,459,008 cited by Applicants, along with Schlueter et al. And Chang et al. In the IDS filed with the present application.

The cited references do not disclose or suggest a belt having a support of fibrous fabric material having on the outer surface thereof a thin layer of elastomeric composition which impregnates, penetrates and anchors to the fibrous fabric material.

Also the cited references do not disclose or suggest the application of a thin primer layer of polyfunctional hydrolyzable silicone composition to the elastomeric layer, followed by hydrolyzing to form a chemical bond between the elastomer layer and the silicone primer layer.

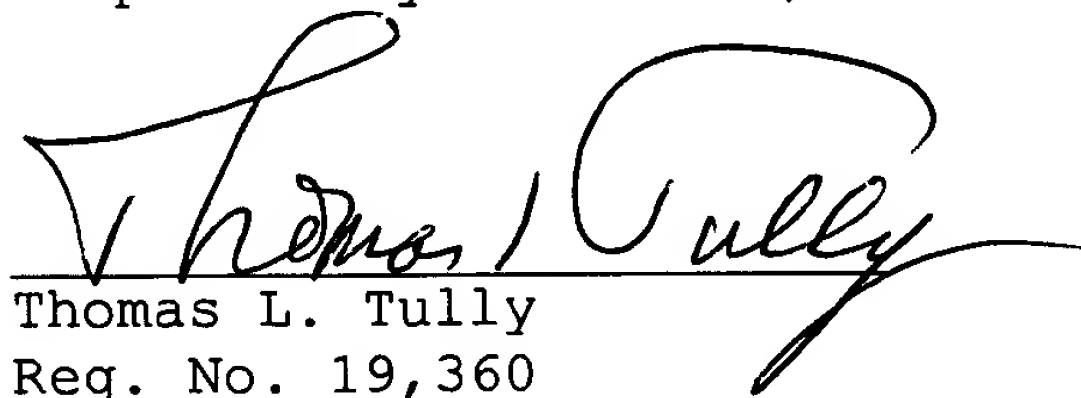
Finally the cited references do not disclose or suggest the application of a thin outer release layer of a heat-curable elastomer over a hydrolyzed silicone primer layer, followed by curing to cause the release layer to bond to the silicone primer layer as a smooth release surface layer.

For the foregoing reasons it is respectfully submitted that the applied references, either alone or in any combination, cannot be said to teach or suggest the present invention under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) and allowance of claims 1 to 6 is respectfully requested.

Counsel would appreciate a telephone call from the Examiner in the even that such might expedite the allowance of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


Thomas L. Tully
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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